



August 1, 2011

The Honorable Ray H. LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The safe and reliable delivery of natural gas and liquids continues to be our highest priority. In an effort to continually improve and complement the leadership initiatives you have put in place, the American Gas Association, the American Petroleum Institute, the Association of Oil Pipe Lines and the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America, together with our Canadian counter-parts, the Canadian Gas Association (CGA) and the Canadian Energy Pipeline Association (CEPA), are initiating a comprehensive study to explore initiatives currently utilized by other sectors in the economy as well as the pipeline industry to share safety information amongst operators. It is our hope that by learning from others, the energy pipeline industry can identify and implement a model that will measurably improve pipeline system safety. We are pleased to announce that this safety management study is expected to be completed as early as February 2012.

We look forward to working with you and other stakeholders on this study initiative to further advance the safe delivery of natural gas and liquids through our nation's vital energy infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Dave McCurdy
President and CEO
American Gas Association

Jack Gerard
President and CEO
American Petroleum Institute

Andrew J. Black
President and CEO
Association of Oil Pipe Lines

Donald F. Santa, Jr.
President and CEO
Interstate Natural Gas Association of America

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